Sophia Godin

**Historical Events and Attractions Panama**

When people think of Panama, they think of the Panama Canal. The Panama Canal is a series of locks connecting the Caribbean (Atlantic) and Pacific oceans. There are three sets of locks called the Gatun locks, Pedro Miguel locks, and the Miraflores locks. The Gatun locks raise the ships, the Pedro Miguel locks lower the ships, and the Miraflores locks also lower the ships. The French had started building the canal but in 1899, they gave up. In 1904, US started to build the Panama Canal. They had to deal with many problems while working on it. For example, they had to deal with diseases. The types of diseases were Yellow fever and malaria. They had to get rid of them so they could finish working without killing the people working on it. It was finished by 1914. The Panama Canal was made to help shorten the journeys by cutting through Panama. Now, because some ships are too big for the canal, they are working to make it wider.

Another historical place is the Panama railway. The railway was important to build because it was quicker to cut through Panama in 1855. It was first built to help move people during the California Gold Rush. Then they rebuilt it to carry people and tools while working on the Panama Canal. It is also called the “dry canal” because it is an alternative to the Panama Canal. It helped people build the Panama Canal because they could It connects the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean by railway roads. It is 136 miles long. Now it has been remodeled for tourists to make it look like it did in the 19th century.

What you should know:

When going to Panama, a popular tourist attraction will be the Panama Canal (which is also one of the Seven Wonders of the World). The best months to go are January, February, and March because of the weather changes from the north and south hemispheres. Remember to pack light clothing because it will get hot (up to 90’s).

This is a picture of the Panama Canal.